

Articles and contributions to Phoenix, c/o Cath, 62 Humberstone Ave, Hulme, M15 5FD

New Green on Bonsall Street

The process is getting underway to design a new public open space on the square of land that stands empty between Bonsall St and Salutation St (where the builders' compound was recently). For the last five years of more residents have been promised a greenspace here and it is now possible.

Initial consultation has begun and people can choose their preferred options from 19th - 24th July: displays at the Aquarius Centre, Guinness Trust office and the Bonsall Street launderette Dolly Tub will show people what could be possible.

Then on Saturday 24th July 11-2pm at the Open Spaces Options Exhibition at the Guinness Trust Office (Freeman Square, opposite Martenscroft) will give Hulme residents a chance to comment, choose their preferred option, suggest improvements and changes.

Architects Randall Thorpe will then go back to the drawing boards and bash out a final design (due for public display mid August) with the aim of a November start - it should be ready for next summer!

The grass, trees and benches in Hornchurch Courts grounds plus this new public greenspace should provide the area with very welcome 'green lungs'; a place to relax, play, meet and chat. A fitting completion of this area's rejuvenation.

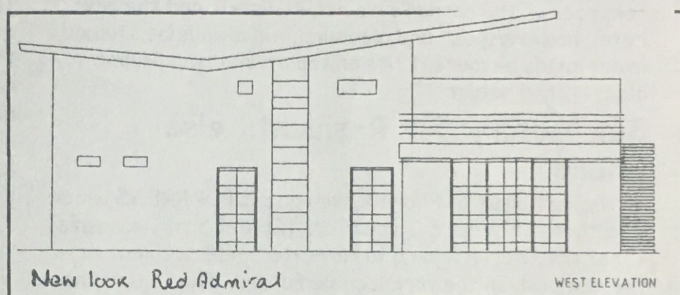
So have a look and put in your pennysworth.

Richard Lockwood

And maybe a new look pub!

Another potential boost to this part of Hulme is that Robinsons brewery, who own the Red Admiral, have put in a planning application to do it up. The plans are to maintain the original shell, and the overall grounds, but to turn the land at the back and side into a beer garden. The first floor will be more bar space, with an outdoor balcony floor looking onto Stretford Rd. It will have more windows and an inverted fancy metal roof. Let's

hope that is being designed with the Hulme community in mind, and not just students, and then it could be a welcome addition to our community. Work should start before February 2000, and if it doesn't, the council will compulsorily purchase the building, in order to develop the surrounding site.



Leaf Street Party

While the masses flooded to Glastonbury, many redbrick locals stayed home and gathered to celebrate the sunshine and a familiar piece of land which is often overlooked.

Leaf Street, the green between Rockdove and Hunmanby was the venue for the funday of Saturday 25th June.

The creative potential of Leaf St has long been spotted and we wanted to organise a day to collect ideas from the community as to how it could be developed for community use. It's our shared back garden!

The day was organised by Manchester Permaculture Group who are the redbrick residents, Hulme locals and other manunians on the Permaculture Design course which is currently running here.

A 3D model and plan of Leaf street was made and everybody was invited to realise their dreams in plasticine.

Kids and grown ups alike created and added their ideas to the bigger picture. The model looks amazing; suggestions included:- wildflower / woodland glade area,

benches and events space, paddling pool, organic veg plots, more trees and an arial runway or 'death slide'.

The sun kept shining and the sounds, the tasty organic food, and the bouncy castle kept the vibes high till evening time.

The people on the permaculture design course will now use the ideas gathered on the day to put together designs for Leaf St. Their designs can be brought back to the community for further consultation.

Look out for forthcoming events where you can have input into the development of plans. Any ideas would be really welcome as would offers of help. Don't hesitate to

talk to Jennie or Rob and the Redbricks Neighbourhood Centre, 51 Humberstone Ave - 226 6979. E-mail permaculture@redbricksarguk/ permaculture
By Jennie

DON'T FORGET THE ANTI-RACIST UNITY FESTIVAL IN CHORLTON PARK, SATURDAY 3RD JULY, AND THE SATURDAY AFTER, THE MOSS SIDE & HULME CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL

Birley Tree Update

Well, we fought long and hard last year to keep the tree. Over a thousand signed the petition, over 250 people took the time to write to the council to object to the original planning application. The 24 hour guard was set up, but the council managed to sneak in and chop off its limbs, before brave residents stopped the chainsaws by putting themselves in the way. We were taken to court, by the council, and won a temporary reprieve; the tree was safe for the time being. But now, alas, the detailed planning application for the hotel has gone in, and no doubt it will get passed by the council and the tree will come down. People fighting against the tree being felled will be disappointed - but we learned a lot about how the council and how it works. We became painfully aware that they will blatantly ignore public opinion where there's money to be made - and all our pleas to move the hotel a few yards down on a different bit of Birley Fields fell on deaf ears. If this posh hotel wants this corner they can have it, no matter what local people think, no matter how much that tree means to people. I guess many of us already knew the council did this sort of thing, but this really brought it home to us. There's no point writing petitions and letters - they ignore them. The only things which saved the tree when they came into cut it the first time was direct action. When it goes, it will be a sad reminder of the council's refusal to listen, and the new hotel, however posh and gleaming, will always be stained in our minds because it sits on top of what was Hulme oldest bit of nature.

But Victory for Residents elsewhere...

In the last issue of Phoenix, we ran a STOP PRESS which said that the Leroy & James Park (Spider park) was safe - that they weren't going to move the spider web out to the new park, in the foreseeable future. The reason the Partnership gave for this turnaround was that the families of Leroy & James had changed their minds, and wanted to see the park intact in the same place it is now. And maybe the threat of more direct action had an effect too. When the workmen turned up to take it down, it was residents running out and climbing up it which saved it - and as the workmen themselves said - they could only expect more of the same if they ever tried to remove it again. So a little victory for all the local kids, for the families of Leroy and James, and for local residents who want to see that play space stay there, and not get turned into industrial units.

By Cath

A Thank-You event

The parents, children and friends of Chevassut school are having a 'thank-you party' for all those who helped them in their campaign. They may have lost, but what the fight has done in bringing a community together, in producing such high times as the road closures, is a victory for people power in itself. Come along in afternoon of July 16th, the last Friday in term to celebrate the battle to save the school

Psychic Fayre
The Old Club House
Buxton
Sun August 29th
12-6pm
Enquiries 01298 72923

Hulme Wholefoods closure

On the 15th May, Hulme Wholefoods saw the day of its closure after more than a year being the local wholefood shop. The reason was the strong debts that the old shop Malarkeys had accumulated over a long period of time. It was just not possible for Limited Resources and Hulme Wholefoods to clear the debts.

Since then, there has been an awareness of the need to open another shop. Not only because we all need a local place to buy some (organic!) veg and other goods, but also because of the idea of what a small business represents as an alternative to big business taking over, like Asda. The shop closure has created a great gap on the local shopping scene especially for vegetarians, vegans and other casual shoppers who used the shop. From here, we'd like to call on people's energy to support the opening of another shop. There's already a few people interested in this process; the next step would be to conduct some research to find out what kind of shop people would like to see.

If you'd like to take part, or have ideas, please contact Nicky or Janine at the Yellowbrick cafe otherwise contact Gadget at 58 Hunmanby

By Ana

New Phoenix team wanted

The people currently doing Phoenix would like to hand on to some new people in Hulme after a year of Phoenix. It's easy and fun - full training in how to lay-out the newsletter will be given, and we're up for helping for the next few issues till the new team are up and running. It only really takes about three hours a month to write and lay-out. Do you want to learn how to do newsletters, and put time into your community? Contact Cath on 226 0751.

Reiki Healing

A complementary therapy for stress release
Mondays 1-5pm 5.30-8pm Drop in - No appt needed
St Johns Hall, 11th of St Johns & Ayres Rd, Old Trafford
Home/hospital visits by arrangement - Anna 226 3324, or Cath
-228 0593

The celebration of a natural life

ITAL 2000

community club night

Mighty Messenger Sound System

Free Supper at 8pm, provided by the Yellow Brick Cafe & Limited Resources, Recycling by Emerge.
Find out about upcoming direct action events.

at the NEW ARDRI DANCE CLUB,
COUPLAND ST, HULME,

Thursday 8th July - £2

Don't forget - Hulme Alliance meetings for all residents in Hulme are on first monday of the month at 6pm in the People First Meeting room next to chemist on Stretford Rd

The articles in Phoenix do not necessarily represent the views of the Hulme Alliance